

Finance Committee Report

Since January, the Finance Committee has met weekly with the Town Manager, the Finance Director, and Department Heads to review the proposed Operating and Capital Budgets for FY07. These meetings included detailed reviews of all budget elements with particular attention to staffing plans and capital needs. In the case of the Harbormaster's operating budget, the Finance Committee strongly recommends an increase the overall Operating Budget (Article 5) by \$48,113 in order to restore it to the originally proposed levels. Otherwise, we found ourselves in agreement with the Department budgets as proposed even though our Committee was not unanimous in approving some of budget items.

We commend the Town's fiscal management on achieving an AA+ bond rating on its most recent bond issue. Our strong financial disciplines have paid additional dividends by assuring us access to the cash we require at very competitive interest rates. We would like to compliment all those involved in preparing the budgets for a job well done.

As we approach the May Annual Town Meeting and look forward to the coming fiscal year, we offer the following comments.

- 1) We strongly support the Town's administration's efforts to continue to refine and implement the comprehensive Capital Facilities Plan to identify, assess and prioritize our capital needs over the next ten to fifteen years within the context of future tax levies. We urge the Board of Selectmen to continue to manage this plan and employ it as a framework for development and investment decisions. This matter is particularly critical since some of our facilities such as our Police and Fire Stations are already woefully inadequate and the full dimensions of the coming Wastewater Management Plan are still unknown.
- 2) With respect to the Wastewater Management Plan, two of four possible Warrant Articles will be presented to the May 2006 Annual Town Meeting. Article 13 - Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade/Expansion, and Article 14 - Real Estate Transfer Tax, Special Use. Article 13 is unanimously supported by the Finance Committee.. Article 14 is recommended in order to help pay for project costs.
- 3) Chatham has been fortunate during the past several years to operate with budgets that have been tightly controlled and well managed. During a period when our Commonwealth and many of our neighboring Towns have experienced severe fiscal constraints, we have stayed within the limits of Proposition 2-1/2 while enjoying excellent services from our municipal government. We caution that although the Town enjoys excellent management, escalating benefit, salary and utility costs, together with slowly rising interest rates are starting to erode our strong fiscal position. We must continue to be diligent to ensure that our Town government remains affordable.

The Town's overall financial situation can be summarized as follows:

- a) Free Cash which consists of funds remaining from operations of the previous fiscal year, available for appropriation and certified as of July 1, 2005, represents 4.4% of the FY05 Operating Budget, or \$1,152,278. We believe that sound financial practices dictate that the Town should generate at least \$1,500,000 annually in Free Cash, hopefully closer to \$2,000,000 to fund routine capital needs and provide a modest level of financial flexibility to the Town.
- b) The Stabilization Fund had a balance of \$1,361,605.48 as of February 28, 2006. You will recall that this account is used to fund items of an extraordinary nature and, by State law, can only be spent with a two-thirds Town Meeting vote. We believe that the Town should continue to maintain this reserve fund and unanimously recommend approval of Article 12 which transfers \$550,000 to the Stabilization Fund which would bring the Fund balance to \$2,000,000. Projects in the mid-range Capital Plan, those of mid-range cost between \$250,000 and \$2,000,000 will be proposed for funding using Stabilization funds beginning in FY08.
- c) The Town's existing debt service stands at \$48,636,854 as of July 1, 2006. The outstanding debt principal will be \$38,886,040 with the interest on that debt totaling \$9,820,814. In addition, the Town has \$7,366,000 in authorized, but unissued debt as of February 28, 2006. Of the several issues on this list, the larger items include \$6,015,000 for the Community Center.
- d) The total debt service included in the FY07 budget is \$6,089,040 and represents 20% of the total budget.
- e) Chatham's debt has been significantly reduced in recent years as a result of careful financial management. Compared to seven years ago, our total debt has been reduced 37.3% from \$77.5 million to \$48.6 million. Annual debt service has been reduced 15% from \$6.9 million to \$6.1 million. In summary, the percentage of the Town's total budget for annual debt service has been reduced from 27% to 20%.

Figures that provide an overview of the Town's FY07 Budget Articles are summary in nature and can be found in Appendix A of the Warrant.

Looking ahead, the Finance Committee will continue to examine and prioritize the major capital projects facing the Town in the next few years including their relationship to debt levels and tax burden and so advise Town Meeting.

The Finance Committee strongly supports the efforts of Town management to stabilize property taxes without reducing the level and quality of Town services. We caution those who would expand Town services that any such increase must be done

with a clear understanding of the benefits to be gained and the effect on the tax levy. Any future increases or expansion of the Operating Budget may have to be restricted to actual growth in the tax base and capital expenditures limited to what can be funded by Free Cash. In addition, the Town should continue to review and update the user/permit fees charged for various Town services to be sure that those who benefit from those services pay for them.

Finally, the Committee greatly appreciates the professionalism, assistance, and cooperation of William G. Hinchey, Chatham's Town Manager and Jennifer Petit, its Finance Director. A great deal of the credit for Chatham's continuing financial health and stability belongs to them and their staffs. We also thank the Department Heads and citizen volunteers for their efforts and support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice A. Clack, Chairman
Ira Seldin, Vice-Chairman
Roslyn B. Coleman
Patricia A. Eldridge
W. Blake Foster
Theodore Fritsch
Daniel J. McPhee
Maria G. Melone
Coleman C. Yeaw

Resolution: Resolved that the Town vote to adopt the following rules of procedure for the Annual Town Meeting of May 8, 2006.

- A) The Moderator shall have the option of reading each Article in the Warrant verbatim or summarizing the subject matter therein in general terms, at his discretion.
- B) Upon an Article having been disposed of by vote, the Moderator shall entertain a motion to reconsider said Article or to accept a Resolution pertaining to said Article only during the same session during which said vote was acted upon.
- C) A motion to move the previous question shall require a two-thirds vote and may not be debated.
- D) The Moderator shall not accept a motion to move the previous question by any person discussing the Article until after an intervening speaker has discussed the Article.
- E) A non-voter may request the privilege of addressing the meeting on a motion made under any Article or Resolution offered, the request to be granted by the Moderator unless there is an objection by a voter. Upon objection, the Moderator shall poll the meeting by voice or count, at his discretion, and a majority vote in favor shall entitle said non-voter to address the meeting. However, the Moderator may grant the privilege of the floor to any non-resident Town Department Head without necessity of a vote.
- F) The Moderator shall not entertain the question of the presence of a quorum at any point at which a motion to move the previous question has already been voted.
- G) Speakers addressing the meeting shall be limited to five (5) minutes within which to present their remarks. The Moderator will not recognize anyone who has previously spoken on the Article until all persons wishing to address the meeting have had an opportunity to speak. The Moderator may exercise reasonable discretion in enforcement of this rule.

The foregoing rules are not intended to alter or change the traditional conduct of the Town Meetings in Chatham except as specifically stated above.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

**TOWN OF CHATHAM
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2006
6:00 P.M.**

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Barnstable, ss.

GREETINGS:

To any of the Constables of the Town of Chatham in the County of Barnstable.

IN THE NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to NOTIFY and WARN the INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF CHATHAM, qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the gymnasium of the Chatham High School on Crowell Road in said Chatham on the 8th day of May at 6:00 o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on any business that may legally come before said meeting, and to meet again in the Depot Road School on Thursday, the 11th day of May 2006 to elect the necessary Town Officers as contained in the Warrant.

Polls for the election of Officers will open at 7:00 a.m. and will close at 8:00 p.m.

Ballot Questions

Article 9 - Capital Exemption Ballot Question - #1

Shall the Town of Chatham be allowed to assess an additional \$450,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the Town Office Building/Renovation, Road Resurfacing, a Front End Loader and a large Dump Truck with Sander for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006?

Article 13 - Debt Exemption Ballot Questions - #2

Shall the Town of Chatham be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition Two and a Half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued for the purpose of paying costs of designing the Phase 1 upgrade/expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Facility, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto?

Article 1 - Annual Town Election

To bring in their votes on one ballot to elect the following Town Officers:

One Moderator for a three (3) year term
Two Selectmen for a three (3) year term
One School Committee member for a three (3) year term
One Housing Authority member for a five (5) year term

Motion: None

Speaker: William G. Litchfield, Moderator

Article 2 - Accept Annual Reports

To hear the reports of various Town Officers and Committees and see what action the Town will take relative to the appointment of officers not chosen by ballot, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By David R. Whitcomb, Chairman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town Moderator and Board of Selectmen be authorized to appoint the necessary Town officers whose appointment is not otherwise provided for and that the Town hear and accept the reports of various Town officers and committees as they appear in the Town Report.

Speaker: William G. Litchfield, Moderator

Explanation: *The purpose of this Article is to enable a Town officer or committee member to address the Town Meeting, particularly if said officer or committee was not able or did not choose to submit a Town Report.*

Article 3 - Fix Salaries - Elected Officials

To fix the salaries of the elected Town Officers for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006, or take any other action in relation thereto.

<u>Officer</u>	<u>Appropriation FY06</u>	<u>Request FY07</u>
Moderator	\$ 600	\$ 600
Selectmen - Each	2,000	2,000
Chairman - Extra	500	500

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By William G. Hinchey, Town Manager
I move that the Town vote to fix the salaries of the elected Town officers in accordance with the positions and amounts in this Article.

Speaker: William G. Hinchey, Town Manager

Explanation: *In accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 41, Section 108, salaries and compensation of elected Officers must be fixed annually by vote of the Town at an Annual Town Meeting. This Article fixes, but does not appropriate these salaries. Actual appropriation of funds for these salaries occurs under Article 5 - Town Operating Budget.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Article 4 - Consolidated Revolving Funds

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the authority granted under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2, to establish or reestablish the following Revolving Funds for the purpose of receiving revenues and making disbursements in connection with the following authorized Town activities, or take any other action in relation thereto.

A) **Airport Revolving Fund**

All monies received by the Airport Commission from the operation of the Chatham Municipal Airport shall be credited to this fund. The Airport Commission shall be authorized to expend from this fund, without further appropriation, to defray the expenses of the Chatham Municipal Airport operated by the Commission. No more than \$85,000 shall be expended from this fund during fiscal year 2007.

B) **Bassett House Revolving Fund**

All monies received by the Town from the operation of the lease of the Bassett House shall be credited to this fund. The Town Manager shall be authorized to expend from this fund, without further appropriation, to defray the maintenance expenses of the

Bassett House operated by the Chamber of Commerce. No more than \$8,000 shall be expended from this fund during fiscal year 2007.

C) Inspectional Services Revolving Fund

10% of all monies received by the Town from the issuance of all inspection permits shall be credited to this fund. The Community Development Department, with the approval of the Town Manager, shall be authorized to expend from this fund, without further appropriation to defray the expenses of consulting services associated with the approval of inspectional permits. No more than \$40,000 shall be expended from this fund during fiscal year 2007, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By David R. Whitcomb, Chairman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town authorize and approve the Airport Revolving Fund, Bassett House Revolving Fund, and Inspectional Services Revolving Fund for the purposes and in the amounts listed in Article 4 of the Warrant.

Speaker: William G. Hinchey, Town Manager

Explanation: *The purpose of these revolving funds are to segregate the revenues generated by each of these operations and to restrict the use of those revenues to the purpose for which they are collected. As required by State statute, the following is an accounting of these funds for the last eighteen months:*

	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>Airport Revolving Fund</u>				
FY05	\$18,050.71	\$23,400.36	\$29,426.90	\$12,024.17
FY06	\$12,024.17	\$15,581.00	\$18,666.87	\$ 8,938.30

(Thru 12/31/05)

<u>Bassett House Revolving Fund</u>				
FY05	\$4,372.37	\$2,500.00	\$ 125.50	\$6,746.87
FY06	\$6,746.87	\$1,250.00	\$1,947.91	\$6,048.96

(Thru 12/31/05)

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Inspectional Services Revolving Fund

FY05	\$13,052.39	\$30,682.69	\$33,948.54	\$ 9,786.54
FY06	\$ 9,786.54	\$20,722.87	-0-	\$30,509.41

(Thru 12/31/05)

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 5 - Town Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, such sums of money as it determines necessary for Town expenses and charges, including without limitation of the foregoing, debt and interest, wages, salaries and expenses for operation of the Town's departments and offices, all for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007 inclusive, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Board of Selectmen)

	Budget Overview			Proposed
(Description)	05 Actual	06 Approp	07 Dept Req	Budget FY07
Operating Budgets				
Gen. Government	\$ 1,748,328	\$ 1,832,722	\$ 1,877,970	\$ 1,861,290
Public Safety	3,633,922	4,037,813	4,162,376	4,064,527
Comm.Development	594,570	670,232	685,445	674,295
Coastal Resources	692,173	750,541	770,602	712,889
Health&Environment	411,836	508,450	519,638	514,638
PublicWks&Facilities	3,317,653	3,347,224	3,549,808	3,503,454
Comm&Social Svrs.	765,322	844,240	885,488	873,367
Education	6,833,313	6,833,313	7,008,553	7,008,553
Employee Benefits	3,569,514	4,002,557	4,441,649	4,441,649
Undist.Ins.&Res.Fund	400,892	414,623	399,623	399,623
Debt Service	<u>4,432,918</u>	<u>4,339,051</u>	<u>4,866,779</u>	<u>4,866,779</u>

Operating Budget

Total	\$ 26,400,441	\$27,580,766	\$29,167,931	\$28,921,064
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Motion: By Deborah Connors, Vice-Chairman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$28,921,064 to fund the Operating Budget for the Town for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 for the purposes and in the amounts designated in the column titled "Proposed Budget FY07" of Article 5 of the Warrant and to meet said appropriation, the Town raise \$27,925,739 through the tax rate and transfer \$200,000 from the Waterways Improvement Fund, \$343,875 from the Community Preservation fund, \$427,950 from the Land Bank Fund, \$10,000 from the Wetlands Protection Fund, \$10,000 from the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund, and \$3,500 from the Railroad Museum Fund.

Speaker: William G. Hinchey, Town Manager

Explanation: (Appendix C provides a full operating budget detail)

Inflationary costs associated with certain significant annual expenditures in our operating budget posed a very real challenge in our FY07 planning. Health insurance costs continued to climb at double digit rates, pension costs increased significantly, and fuel and other utility costs skyrocketed. The Town's property tax funds approximately 70% of our total operating budget. By State law a community can raise its property tax levy by no more than 2-1/2% each year without an operating override. The allowed 2-1/2% levy growth planned for FY07 will generate somewhat less than \$500,000 of new revenue next year. Since our local economy continues to prosper, new property being taxed for the first time, or "new growth", accounts for \$250,000 of additional available revenue to fund the upcoming year's operating budget. Each year, if the Town's proposed budget exceeds these two available funding sources, then either funding for other budget components such as our capital budget is diminished, or an override becomes necessary.

The FY07 budget was able to absorb the inflationary costs described in the previous paragraph (health, pension and utilities). The FY07 budget proposed allows an increase in our school's budget, another budgetary sub-category which is particularly difficult to control since it consists primarily of salary and utility costs which grow with inflation. Therefore, the FY07 budget proposed intentionally limits new programs or positions. Increased service demands will be accommodated through reassignment of duties or reorganization of existing resources. Two new positions were added to the FY07 budget and funding for these additional costs were garnered by either existing or new funding sources or through budgetary efficiencies in our existing budget.

Each year the Board of Selectmen establishes its goals for the upcoming year. The Town thereafter assembles its resources in order to effectively and efficiently accomplish those goals. One major planning component used to address additional service needs is a five year staffing plan. In FY07 two new positions envisioned in the staffing plan were added first to the Information Technology Department and secondly to the Recreation Department. The Information Technology position will allow continued expansion of our public communications goal, specifically televised committee meetings and our Town website. The Recreation position will continue to gradually staff our new Community Center. The completion of the Community Center staffing will occur in the FY08 budget.

The production of Channel 18, the local government channel, is currently being provided by contract employees. In FY07, the first full time employee will be added to the Information Technology budget for this purpose. Cable television revenues will partially offset Channel 18 production costs. The balance of the funding will be through tax revenue. Beginning in July of 2006, the number of committees that will have their meetings televised live will increase from three to six. The Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board, and Citizens Advisory Committee meetings will continue to be televised live and rebroadcast. In addition, the full Zoning Board of Appeals, Historic Business District Commission slate of meetings and one Board of Health meeting per month will be able to be televised live. The studio capacities in the new Community Center and renovated Annex, as well as the addition of a portable studio will enable meeting production to more easily expand in the future as funding and demand allow.

An Assistant Recreation Programmer position will be added to the FY07 budget as the second of three staffing components of the new Community Center. In FY06 and again in FY08, a janitor is added to our municipal budget to serve the needs of this new and other Town buildings. Several part time positions to be funded in FY08 will complete the staffing requirements of the Town's Community Center new resource. The Assistant Programmer position proposed in FY07 will enable recreational programming for grades 7 and above, currently not offered. All new Community

Center positions will be partially offset by additional revenue generated by modest program fees and building rental, as will some of the additional costs of operating a larger building.

A part time seasonal position will be added in the Harbormaster Department in FY07 in order to supplement the Town's water patrol of Lighthouse Beach and South Beach with a land based beach monitor or lifeguard to assist people in the water and on the beach. This service has been deemed necessary after our experiences of this past summer season. The Town does not intend to create a sanctioned swimming beach at this area but, rather, this position will be an attempt to deter swimming during unsafe conditions which commonly prevail at these popular beaches. The cost of this new seasonal position is approximately \$4,000 and will be fully offset by increased late mooring fees.

The FY07 operating budget otherwise will continue to allow the full breadth of municipal services to which we have become accustomed.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 4-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 6 - Water Department Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, such sums of money as it determines necessary for expenses and charges, including without limitation of the foregoing, debt and interest, wages, salaries and expenses for operation of the Town Water Department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007 inclusive, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Water & Sewer Commissioners)

(Description)	05 Actual	06 Approp	07 Dept Req	Proposed Water Budget FY07
Water Costs				
Operating				
Salaries	\$ 99,037	118,144	143,831	143,831
Expenses	890,614	928,186	952,400	952,400
Sub-total Operating	989,651	1,046,330	1,096,231	1,096,231
Debt				
Principal	756,511	729,686	861,429	861,429
Interest-Long-Term	271,968	311,697	330,832	330,832
Interest-Short-Term	29,036	110,000	30,000	30,000

Sub-total Debt	1,057,515	1,151,383	1,222,261	1,222,261
Total Water				
Direct Costs	2,047,166	2,197,713	2,318,492	2,318,492
Overhead-Indirect				
Costs	130,043	134,839	139,806	139,806
Overhead-GF				
Loan Repayment	64,150	64,150	64,150	64,150
Overhead-Rate				
Payback for Bett	169,132	163,133	157,101	157,101
Overhead-Deficit				
Payback		44,204		
Sub-total Overhead	363,325	406,326	361,057	361,057
Water Operating				
Budget	2,410,491	2,604,039	2,679,549	2,679,549

Motion: By Sean Summers, Clerk, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town vote to appropriate \$2,318,492 for direct costs, and further that an additional \$361,057 be transferred to the General Fund to be applied to overhead indirect costs associated with the Water Department Operating Budget of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006, for the purposes and in the amounts designated in the column titled "Proposed Water Budget FY07" of Article 6 of the Warrant and to meet said appropriation, the Town raise \$2,279,549 through water receipts and raise \$400,000 through the tax rate.

Speaker: William G. Redfield, Director, Water & Sewer Departments

Explanation: *A detailed Water Operating Budget is provided as Appendix E in the back of this booklet. The FY07 Water Department budget was directed towards continuing to improve the quality of water we provide to our customers, customer relations; and providing a high level of reliability to the water supplies and distribution system to ensure that the Town has safe drinking water and the required flows for fire fighting.*

The Water Department is planning to continue to improve on the services by performing the following projects:

- * *Dissemination of information on the Department's water quality and services for preparing and mailing the "Chatham Water Department 2005 Water Quality Report" and the Chatham Water News" to all water customers;*

- * *Perform a valve exercising program with the spring water system disinfecting and flushing program;*
- * *Maintain all public fire hydrants and perform fire flow tests;*
- * *Optimizing the corrosion control system to ensure the water system continues to meet the lead and copper regulations;*
- * *Cleaning, painting, and keeping organized all well pumping stations;*
- * *Update water main and service records;*
- * *Maintain and replace water meters; and*
- * *Optimize the accuracy of all existing and new accounts on the Town's centralized computer system.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 9-0-0

Article 7 - Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds such sums of money as are necessary to implement salary and wage adjustments in the Town's Personnel Policies-Classification and Compensation Schedule and to provide funding for other salary compensation not a part of the Classification Schedule including Police and Fire Union employees, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By Douglas Ann Bohman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$275,000 to implement salary and wage adjustments in the Town's Personnel Policies-Classification and Compensation Schedules, and other salary compensation not a part of the Classification Schedule, including Police and Fire Union employees.

Speaker: Jennifer Petit, Finance Director

Explanation: *Chatham's salaries are extremely competitive and they position the Town to attract highly qualified employees. The goal is to remain competitive relative to the cost of living on Cape Cod as well as be fiscally responsible to the taxpayers.*

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Northeast rose an average of 3.7%. Cape municipalities are projecting a 3% cost of living adjustment for 2007. Fire union contract salary adjustments are set for FY07 and FY08 at 3%.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 8 - Five Year Capital Authorization - #1

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds, a sum or sums of money, to be expended for capital projects, equipment and expenses, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Board of Selectmen)

Capital Budget Detail

Description	FY06 Actual	FY07 Request	FY07 Proposed
Capital Program & Budget Summary	Capital Budget		Capital Budget
General Government	\$ 205,000	\$ 365,000	\$ 195,000
Public Safety	40,000	80,000	61,000
Community Development	170,000	240,000	50,000
Coastal Resources & Lab	299,500	171,500	138,500
Public Works (w/o Water)	588,000	728,800	133,000
Community&Social Services		0	0
Equipment	<u>458,538</u>	<u>654,000</u>	<u>257,000</u>
Total Town Funded	1,761,038	2,239,300	834,500
Capital Budget	=====	=====	=====

Motion: By Ronald J. Bergstrom, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town vote to appropriate \$834,500 for the purpose of funding the FY07 capital budget in the column titled "FY07 Proposed" of Article 8 of the Warrant and to meet said appropriation, transfer \$698,962 from Free Cash, \$82,538 from Article 6 of the May 2005 Annual Town Meeting, \$8,500 from Article 6 of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting, \$39,500 from the Waterways Improvement Account, and \$5,000 from cemetery lot sales.

Speaker: William G. Hinchey, Town Manager

Explanation: *(Appendix F provides a full capital budget detail)*
The 5 Year Capital Plan is proposed each year in order to provide maintenance, equipment, and small project funding in the cost range of \$5,000-250,000. Spending for this plan is historically limited to one-time available funds, primarily Free Cash.

This year there are two Warrant Articles (8 and 9) funding the five year capital

budget amounting to \$1,284,500. The Town intends to increase its Stabilization Fund this year by \$450,000, an amount equal to its drop-off in debt service. A Stabilization fund may only be funded by Free Cash. Therefore, \$450,000 worth of capital items are funded in the following Article by a Capital Exemption. This leaves a balance of \$450,000 in Free Cash available to fund our stabilization account.

Approximately 50% of the total five year capital plan is for recurring costs of maintenance operations, 35% is earmarked for vehicle and equipment replacement and the remaining 15% will be used for small new projects. Four items have been deleted from this plan and placed in Article 9.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Article 9 - Capital Authorization - #2

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of paying costs of road resurfacing, acquiring a front end loader, purchasing a large dump truck with plow and sander and to pay costs of the Town Hall building addition renovation, and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and to determine how to raise this appropriation and provided, however, that no money appropriated hereunder shall be expended for this purpose unless and until the Town shall have voted at the next election to be allowed to assess an additional sum of money in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of this Article for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006.

(Board of Selectmen)

Town Office Building/Renovation	\$115,000
Road Resurfacing	165,000
Front End Loader	135,000
Large Dump Truck w/ Plow & Sander	<u>35,000</u>
	\$450,000

Motion: By David R. Whitcomb, Chairman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the sum of \$450,000 be and hereby is appropriated by taxation for the purpose of paying costs of road resurfacing, acquiring a front end loader, purchasing a large dump truck with plow and sander and to pay costs of the Town Hall building addition renovation, and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; provided, however, that no money appropriated hereunder shall be expended for this purpose unless and until the Town shall have voted at the next election to be allowed to assess an additional sum of money in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of this Article for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 in accordance with

the provisions of Chapter 59, Section 21C, Clause (i1/2) of the General Laws (Proposition 2-1/2).

Town Office Building/Renovation	\$115,000
Road Resurfacing	165,000
Front End Loader	135,000
Large Dump Truck w/ Plow & Sander	<u>35,000</u>
	\$450,000

Speaker: William G. Hinchey, Town Manager

Explanation: *This Article seeks to fund the \$450,000 of the 5 Year Capital Plan in accordance with the Explanation given in the previous Article.*

The large dump truck is funded partially in Article 8 (\$60,000) and partially in Article 9 (\$35,000). These items are all part of our five year capital plan. Funding by a Capital Exemption allows the Town to reserve \$450,000 of Free Cash in order to fund its stabilization account. This Capital Exemption does not result in an increase in our property tax rate.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Article 10 - Water Capital Authorization - #1

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of paying costs for the design and construction of a new water supply well, pump house, and for all costs incidental and related thereto, to be located at either the Godwin or Mill Pond properties owned by the Town and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum pursuant to Chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8, of the Massachusetts General Law or any other enabling authority, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By Deborah Connors, Vice-Chairman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town appropriate \$1,500,000 for design and construction of a new water supply well, pump house, and for all costs incidental and related thereto, to be located at either the Godwin or Mill Pond properties owned by the Town and that to meet said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount pursuant to Chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8

of the Massachusetts General Laws, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and further, that the Selectmen are authorized to apply for and accept any grants that may be available from any sources on account of this project.

Speaker: William Redfield, Director, Water & Sewer Department

Explanation: *The “Proposed Great Hill Standpipe Planning Report” dated December 28, 2001, prepared by Earth Tech, Inc., projects the Town’s fire flow water demands and future water use demands. The minimum fire flow water demands were calculated by the Insurance Service’s Office at 3,500 gallons per minutes (gpm) and the future water use demand with contingency supplies was projected to be over 5,600 gpm within the next twenty years. Indian Hill Well, with its maximum pumping capacity of 800 gpm, is off line due to the concerns of the Chatham water users regarding PCE contamination. This leaves the Town with 3,800 gpm maximum pumping capacity from all its other existing supply sources.*

The Water Department has investigated locations for additional water supply wells and found only four possible well sites remaining in Town that could meet all the stringent standards for a public water supply. The two remaining sites are located at the Godwin property north of Goose Pond and south of Mill Pond at the Town line.

The requested funds will be for performing prolonged pump tests at each of the two remaining water supply sites and preparing and submitting Public Water Supply Request for the development of one of the sites as a 700 gpm water supply. The site that is most cost effective will be developed by installing a well screen and casing followed by the construction of the well’s pump and pump house.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 11 - Water Capital Authorization - #2

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of paying costs for the design and construction of replacement water mains and the public portion of the water services connected to the original water mains and for all costs incidental and related thereto, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum pursuant to Chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8, of the Massachusetts General Law or any other enabling authority, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By Sean Summers, Clerk, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town appropriate \$1,000,000 for design and construction of

replacement water mains and the public portion of the water services connected to the original water mains and for all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount pursuant to Chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Selectmen are authorized to apply for and accept any grants that may be available from any sources on account of this project.

Speaker: William Redfield, Director, Water & Sewer Department

Explanation: *Replacing old small diameter water mains with water mains with a minimum of an eight inch diameter will increase the fire flows. Replacing unlined water mains that allow iron to leach from the pipes into the water and replacing lead, copper, or steel water services that allow these materials to leach from the pipes into the water will improve the water quality and safety for the water users. Replacing these old pipes will also eliminate leaks and the waste of water.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 12 - Stabilization Authorization

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By Douglas Ann Bohman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town vote to transfer \$450,000 from Free Cash and transfer \$100,000 from the FY04 Allowance for Abatements Account for a total of \$550,000, said funds to be added to the Stabilization Account.

Speaker: Jennifer Petit, Finance Director

Explanation: *One pivotal component of the Town's financial planning is setting aside a reserve or Stabilization Account. The current balance in our Stabilization Account is \$1.35 million. In FY07, the Town's goal is to set aside the debt drop-off of \$450,000 and \$100,000 of Allowance for Abatements Fund. which brings the balance to approximately \$2 million.*

A Stabilization Account represents prudent financial planning against unforeseen expenses which do occur from time to time. In Chatham, we are using our Stabilization Fund as a fluctuating savings balance to minimize borrowing while we implement our capital facility replacement plan. In addition, paying cash from this reserve account for design funds for major capital projects will reduce the total borrowing costs on major projects such as Police and Fire Station replacements.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 13 - Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade/Expansion

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of designing the Phase I upgrade/expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Facility, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8(4) or pursuant to any other enabling authority to meet this appropriation, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; provided, however, that no sums shall be borrowed or expended hereunder unless the Town shall have voted to exclude the amounts needed to repay any borrowing authorized by this vote from the limitation imposed upon the total property taxes that may be levied within the Town by Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws (Proposition 2-1/2), or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By Ronald J. Bergstrom, Board of Selectmen

I move that the sum of \$1.1 million is hereby appropriated for the purpose of paying costs of designing the Phase I upgrade/expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Facility, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow said sum under and pursuant to Chapter 44 Section 8(4), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; provided however, that no sums shall be borrowed or expended hereunder unless the Town shall have voted to exclude the amounts needed to repay any borrowing authorized by this vote from the limitations imposed upon the total property taxes that may be levied within the Town by Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws (Proposition 2-1/2); further, that the Selectmen are authorized to apply for and accept any grants that may be available from any sources on account of this program.

Speaker: Dr. Robert Duncanson, Director, Health & Environment

Explanation: *The Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) is expected to be completed and ready for submittal to various regulatory agencies in 2006. In anticipation of the plan's completion, the Town and Stearns & Wheeler, LLC, our engineering consultant, have prepared a program to begin implementation.*

The funds sought in this Article will allow for detailed design of the first phase of the upgrade/expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Facility and the preparation of a project manual, including bid documents. The Town has reached consensus with MA DEP with regard to moving forward with implementation while the CWMP is completed and approved. This is based on an understanding that the study findings support the need to upgrade/expand the treatment facility to support expansion of the wastewater collection system to new areas. It is also recognition of the time required to design, permit, bid, and construct new wastewater infrastructure that can easily require 24-36 months.

In order to meet the stringent nitrogen limitations necessary to restore water quality in our embayment a new Wastewater Treatment Facility will be designed, at the site of the existing facility, to treat wastewater to the current state-of-the-art for nitrogen removal. The facility will be designed in a modular fashion, with sufficient overall capacity to accommodate the entire Town, but with construction to be phased as future needs dictate.

The detailed design funds sought in this Article have been anticipated in our Capital Facility Plan and, if approved, will cause neither our tax levy, nor tax rate, to increase.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 14 - Real Estate Transfer Tax - Special Use

To see if the Town will vote to authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of special legislation authorizing the Town to impose, collect, and disburse a fee equal to one percent (1%) of the purchase price upon the transfer of any real property interest in any real property situated in the Town. The fee so generated shall be held in a separate fund subject to appropriation at any general or special Town Meeting.

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By David R. Whitcomb, Chairman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of special legislation authorizing the Town to impose, collect, and disburse a fee equal to one percent (1%) of the purchase price upon the transfer of any real property interest in any real property situated in the Town. The fee shall be the liability of the buyer of the real property interest. The fees so generated shall be dedicated to costs associated with the expansion of the Town's sewer system, including its collection and treatment facilities.

Speaker: William G. Hinchey, Town Manager

Explanation: *The Town is seeking to impose a one percent (1%) real estate transfer fee in order to offset the wastewater expansion expenses. In October 2005, a comprehensive financial forecast was completed analyzing the costs of sewerage the entire Town and what the impact on the tax rate would be. Several different scenarios were presented with and without betterments and with and without a real estate transfer fee. A copy of the presentation is in Appendix E.*

The Town projects that the real estate transfer fee would generate approximately \$2 million annually in revenue. If the Town were to sewer the entire Town, it would cost approximately \$250 million. The revenue generated by this tax would, therefore, offset nearly 25% of the costs of Town-wide sewerage. This tax offset would save the average homeowner \$75-150/year in their property tax that he/she would otherwise be obligated to pay for a Town-wide sewer system. The actual legislation is in Appendix H. Passage of the Article will petition the State for special legislation allowing this tax. Authorization of this tax could be made at a subsequent Town Meeting if needed to fund the completed Wastewater Plan.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 7-1-0

Article 15 - Renumber General Bylaws of the Town

To see if the Town will vote to renumber and recaption the General Bylaws of the Town by (a) assigning a new chapter number to each of the General Bylaws; (b) renumbering each section of each Bylaw accordingly (c) inserting chapter, article and section titles; and (d) updating internal references to reflect the new numbering system, all as set forth in the document on file in the Office of the Town Clerk titled "Town of Chatham, Massachusetts Draft" dated February 2006, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Town Clerk)

Motion: By Ronald J. Bergstrom, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town vote to renumber and recaption the General Bylaws of the Town

by (a) assigning a new chapter number to each of the General Bylaws; (b) renumbering each section of each Bylaw accordingly (c) inserting chapter, article and section titles; and (d) updating internal references to reflect the new numbering system, all as set forth in the document on file in the Office of the Town Clerk titled “Town of Chatham, Massachusetts Draft” dated February 2006.

Speaker: Julie Smith, Town Clerk

Explanation: *The purpose of this Article is simply to “organize” the General Bylaws into a logical system, so as to be more user-friendly. This does not change the wording of any previously approved General Bylaw.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 6-0-0

Article 16 - Affordable Housing Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of General Laws Chapter 44 Section 55C establishing a trust to be known as the Affordable Housing Trust Fund whose purpose shall be to provide for the creation and preservation of affordable housing in the Town for the benefit of low and moderate income households, and in implementation thereof will vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town by adding the following to Chapter 10 as Section 10-5, Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

- a) There shall be a Board of Trustees of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund established by the vote under Article 16 of the Warrant for the 2006 Annual Town Meeting, in this section called the Board, which shall include seven (7) trustees, including all of the members of the Board of Selectmen, with the remaining two (2) members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Trustees shall serve for a term not to exceed two years. A quorum of the Board of Trustees shall be the majority of the number of authorized trustees, four (4), except when voting to appropriate funds and, in that instance, the minimum necessary members present shall be five (5).
- b) The powers of the Board shall be carried on in furtherance of the purpose as set forth in General Laws Chapter 44 Section 55C.

(Affordable Housing Committee)

Motion: By Bill Bystrom, Chairman, Affordable Housing Committee
I move that the town vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 55C establishing a trust to be known as the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and amend the General Bylaws as printed in the Warrant.

Speaker: Bill Bystrom, Chairman, Affordable Housing Committee

Explanation: *This Article would establish a trust to be known as the Affordable Housing Trust Fund that will be the mechanism for the Town to receive funds from the Inclusionary Zoning Bylaw approved at Annual Town Meeting in 2005 or other sources, plan affordable housing and spend monies to create affordable housing in Chatham. The Article would also establish a Board of Trustees for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, set its membership and terms of Office.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 5-1-0

Article 17 - Affordable Housing Use Restriction

To see if the Town will vote to enter into a Use Restriction as defined in 760 CMR 45.02, Department of Housing and Community Development Local Initiative Program Regulations, for four houses, located at 563, 568, 576 and 579 Old Comers Road on the former MCI property in North Chatham, with the Chatham Housing Authority designated as the managing agent for a minimum period of 15 years, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Chatham Housing Authority)

Motion: By Janet Daly, Chairman, Chatham Housing Authority
I move that the Town vote to enter into a Use Restriction for the four wood frame houses on the former MCI property as printed in the Warrant.

Speaker: Janet Daly, Chairman, Chatham Housing Authority

Explanation: *Currently, the Chatham Housing Authority (CHA) is running a “Rent to Home Ownership Program” in four wood frame houses, located at 563, 568, 576 and 579 Old Comers Road on the former MCI property in North Chatham. For over three years, these homes have served as affordable housing for moderate income families, earning less than 80% of median income (\$52,550) for a family of 4. Half of the rent paid to the CHA is placed in an escrow account to be ultimately used by the tenants towards a down payment on a house. In order for these four units, currently providing affordable housing, to be credited on the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development’s Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI), entering into a Use Restriction as defined in 760 CMR 45.02 is required. The fifteen year duration referenced in the Article is the minimum time frame for units rehabilitated and used as affordable housing to be recognized on the SHI and ultimately credited towards attaining the Town and State’s 10% goal of affordable housing stock.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Disapprove 3-2-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 3-3-0

Article 18 - Long Term Leases - Former Marconi RCA Wireless Station

To see if the Town will vote to authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to petition the Great and General Court to seek special legislation to allow the Town to enter into leases with prospective tenants at the former MCI/Marconi RCA Wireless Receiving Station (Parcel 11J-2-7) for the Hotel, Operations Center and two brick residential buildings respectively located at 831 Orleans Road, 847 Orleans Road, 589 Old Comers Road and 595 Old Comers Road in North Chatham. Said leases to have a term of up to 99 years..

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By Deborah Connors, Vice-Chairman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town vote to authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to seek special legislation to allow the Town to enter into leases for four buildings located at 831 Orleans Road, 847 Orleans Road, 589 Old Comers Road and 595 Old Comers Road in North Chatham with prospective tenants at the former MCI/Marconi RCA Wireless Receiving Station, but not exceeding the terms as set forth in the Warrant.

Speaker: Terence M. Whalen, Principal Planner

Explanation: *Chapter 40, Section 3 of the Massachusetts General Law empowers a Town to hold real estate for the public use of the inhabitants and authorizes its Selectmen to let or lease said real estate for not more than ten years. In anticipation of respondents to the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the reuse of the Hotel, Operations Center and two brick residential buildings at the former MCI/Marconi RCA Wireless Receiving Station respectively located at 831 Orleans Road, 847 Orleans Road, 589 Old Comers Road and 595 Old Comers Road, requiring a lease period greater than ten years to amortize costs associated with site and building improvements, this Article provides a mechanism to petition the General Court for long term leases. The ultimate duration of the leases, not to exceed 99 years, will be determined through negotiation with the selected RFP respondents determined to be most advantageous to the Town of Chatham.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Article 19 - Ryder's Cove Parking Lot vs. Land Conservation

To see if the Town will vote to advise the Board of Selectmen to rescind the November 1, 2005 decision to build an additional 18-space parking lot for trailers and vehicles on the Ryder's Cove lower triangle, Lot 1, of the former MCI property.

(By Petition)

Speaker: Barbara Cotnam, Petitioner

Motion: To see if the Town will vote to advise the Board of Selectmen to rescind the November 1, 2005 decision to build an additional 18-space parking lot for trailers and vehicles on the Ryder's Cove lower triangle, Lot 2 of the former MCI property.

Explanation: *The land under discussion is the former MCI property located along Rt. 28, near Old Comers Road, and bounded by Rt. 28, Ryder's Cove Road and Ryder's Cove. Both the land and buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2004, the town created a new asphalt parking lot adjacent to Ryder's Cove Road with 23 spaces (17 designated "trailer with vehicle" and 6 for vehicles only). Its purpose was to meet the need for increased parking at the town landing during Bass fishing season. Town statistics taken during summer 2005 indicated the parking at Ryder's Cove during Bass fishing season was improved. Yet, on November 1st, 2005 the selectmen approved another eighteen space trailer/vehicle parking lot to be built on the updated portion of lot #1 (lower triangle). Historically, eighty to ninety percent of the boaters using Ryder's Cove Landing for Bass fishing are from out-of-town and the number of overflow days are several weeks. Chatham preservationists and conservationists, alike, believe that creating yet another trailer/vehicle parking area on this small triangle of woodland, waterfront property would be a profound misuse of scarce open space. The land was purchased by the Town from MCI in 1999 in order to "preserve the property" to benefit all Chatham residents and property owners. Your "yes" vote counts for preserving Chatham's finite waterfront land and against building another parking lot to benefit out of town boaters during Bass fishing season.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Disapprove 4-1-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 4-1-1 Abstention

Article 20 - Special Legislation - Exemption from Chapter 138 Quota

To see if the Town will vote to authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation as follows:

The Town of Chatham shall be exempt from the quotas established under Section 17 of Chapter 138 as it relates to the number of licenses its licensing authority may issue pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 138 by two (2) licenses, bringing the number of said licenses from fourteen (14) to sixteen (16) or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By Sean Summers, Clerk, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town vote to authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation which will exempt the Town from the quotas established under Section 17 of Chapter 138 of the Mass General Laws as it relates to the number of licenses its licensing authority may issue pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 138 by two (2) licenses, bringing the number of said licenses from fourteen (14) to sixteen (16).

Speaker: Ramona McDonald, Licensing Agent

Explanation: *The Town is allowed 14 Section 12 (restaurant) Licenses under the State law. The Town has reached that quota. Passage of this Article and special legislation would allow the Board of Selectmen to issue two additional licenses, bringing the number of said licenses to sixteen, if they deem it to be in the Town's best interest and appropriate to the neighborhood.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 21 - Elderly - Exemption

To see if the Town will vote to adopt, beginning with the Fiscal Year 2007, real estate tax billing period, MGL, Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41D as follows:

The amounts of the gross receipts and whole estate, real and personal, as set forth in Clause 41C, shall be increased annually by an amount equal to the increase in the Consumer Price Index, published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, for such year (COLA). The Department of Revenue shall annually inform each City or Town that accepts this Clause of the amount of this increase.

(Board of Selectmen)

Motion: By Douglas Ann Bohman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town vote to adopt MGL, Chapter 59, Clause 41D.

Speaker: Andy Machado, Deputy Assessor

Explanation: *This legislation creates a new provision that allows communities to make certain adjustments in the eligibility requirements seniors must meet in order to qualify for a property tax exemption under MGL, Chapter 59, Section 5 (41C).*

The COLA increases the income and asset limits only in those communities that have accepted MGL Chapter 59, Section 5 (41D). Acceptance is by a vote of Town Meeting, Town Council or City Council with the Mayor's approval, where required.

The income and asset limit increases resulting from adoption of this provision operate cumulatively. Each year's new limit, as increased by the COLA, becomes the base to which the next year's COLA is applied.

For example, a community that operates under Clause 41C first adopts the local option provision for FY05. In FY05, the base income limits of \$13,000 for single taxpayers and \$15,000 for married taxpayers were increased by 3.8% and taxpayers qualified for the exemption with income of up to \$13,494 ($\$13,000 \times 1.038$ if single and $\$15,570 (\$15,000 \times 1.038)$ if married.

The FY06 income limits are now calculated by applying the FY06 COLA to \$13,494 and \$15,570. The results in FY06 income limits of \$13,872 ($\$13,494 \times 1.028$) and \$16,006 ($\$15,570 \times 1.028$).

In FY05, the base asset limits of \$28,000 for single taxpayers and \$30,000 for married taxpayers were increased by 3.8% and taxpayers qualified for the exemption with assets of up to \$29,064 ($\$28,000 \times 1.038$) if single and \$31,140 ($\$30,000 \times 1.038$) if married. The FY06 asset limits are now calculated by applying the FY06 COLA to \$29,064 and \$31,140. That results in FY06 asset limits of \$29,878 ($\$29,064 \times 1.028$) and \$32,012 ($\$31,140 \times 1.028$).

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 6-0-0

Article 22 - Increase Income Limit for Clause 41A Deferral

To see if the Town will vote to adopt a maximum qualifying gross receipts amount of \$40,000 as provided for under the provisions of MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41A(2).

(Board of Assessors)

Motion: By David R. Whitcomb, Chairman, Board of Selectmen
I move that the Town adopt a maximum qualifying gross receipts amount of \$40,000 as provided for under the provisions of MGL, Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41A(2).

Speaker: Andrew R. Machado, Deputy Assessor

Explanation: *MGL, Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41(A) allows qualifying individuals to defer payment of all or a portion of their property taxes until the property is conveyed or the individual dies, with interest accruing at the rate of 8% during the period of deferral. The owner or owners must enter into a formal tax deferral and recovery agreement with the Board of Assessors. The agreement is recorded at the Registry of Deeds and constitutes a lien upon the property.*

The current qualifying gross receipts amount adopted by the Town is \$35,000. The Board of Assessors is proposing that Town Meeting vote to increase the gross receipts amount to \$40,000. An increase in the gross receipts amount would provide assistance to those individuals who need assistance, but who just miss qualifying for assistance under other Statutes.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 23 - Town Meeting Resolution on “Cape Care” Universal Health Care Proposal

Whereas,

Health care coverage has become less affordable and less available to growing numbers of people in our community, despite all efforts to date at both the state and federal level; and

Each person who lacks adequate health care coverage faces increased risks of illness, disability, and premature death. Our regional has well above state-average rates of uninsured-and underinsured-people; and

The families of such individuals are faced with growing out-of-pocket costs. These families must now confront the soaring expenses of health coverage, and the worry about bankruptcy or impoverishment in the event of serious illness. Their caregiver stress increases with the need to provide more and more uncovered care; and

Small businesses face the soaring expenses of covering their employees' health premiums, passing some of these costs along to employees in the form of rising premiums and out-of-pocket payments. Our regional predominance of small business and self-employed individuals is, understandably, a key factor in the low rates of health care coverage; and

Our Town governments struggle with the costs of health coverage for town employees. We the people are regularly forced to choose among other important and accustomed community services for budget cuts; and

Our community health care providers and institutions are caught in the inescapable financial squeeze of rising administrative costs and declining reimbursements. They are forced to reduce staffing, cut services, or close. Access to care for all they serve is diminished.

And whereas,

These consequences represent losses in quality of life for many (if not all) members of the Cape and Islands community, and a threat to our collective welfare.

Now Therefore:

We call upon Town officials to petition our County Government to support the development of a proposed regional universal health care program, known as Cape Care, which would, at a minimum, meet these criteria:

- * provide broad health care coverage for ALL residents of the Cape and Islands, to improve individual and community health; and
- * control of health care cost inflation by reducing excessive administrative expenses, as well as through bulk discount purchasing of necessary medications and medical supplies; and
- * shape health care delivery to meet community needs for appropriate care, through a representative policy-making board of community members and health care providers; and
- * strengthen the ability of our existing network of health care providers and institutions to provide high-quality care, by assuring adequate funding for necessary services.

We call for a public hearing process in Barnstable County, to include analysis of the proposed plan's organization and governance, its expected effects on community health, and its financial modeling, to be initiated by the end of the year 2006.

The Clerk of the Town is instructed to give Notice of Passage of this Resolution to all Representatives at the County, State and Federal level.

(By Petition)

Speaker: Mark Massoni, Petitioner

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 2-2-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 4-4-0

Article 24 - Land Bank Purchase - Marquit Property

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Land Bank Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account a sum of money to acquire by purchase for conservation/open space purposes as set out in Section 3 of Chapter 293 of the Acts of 1998, parcels of land off Valley Farm Drive in West Chatham, Massachusetts, identified on the plan by Nickerson & Berger, Engineers “Valley Farm Estates Subdivision Plan of Land in West Chatham” approved by the Planning Board on September 28, 1965 as Lots 4, 16 & 17, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18 & 20, further shown on the Chatham Assessors Map 9C as Parcels 0 4 & 016 and Map 10C as Parcels 08, 017, 018 & 20, formerly owned by the Marquit Family Nominee Trust, now owned by the Chatham Conservation Foundation, consisting of approximately \pm 8.4 acres, more or less, as more fully described in a deed recorded with the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds Book 10525, Page 177 and to authorize the Selectmen to take all necessary measures to acquire said property, including the acceptance of a deed and to further authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to grant a perpetual conservation restriction as authorized under MGL, Chapter 184, Sections 31-33 at the time of closing, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

(Land Bank Open Space Committee)

Motion: By Robert Zaremba, Chairman, Land Bank Open Space Committee
I move that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer, from the Land Bank Fund, the sum of \$202,119.11 to purchase the land described in the Article for the purpose of open space, conservation land and passive recreation, and to authorize the Selectmen to take all necessary measures to acquire said property, including the acceptance of a deed, and to further authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to grant a perpetual conservation restriction.

Speaker: Robert Zaremba, Chairman, Land Bank Open Space Committee

Explanation: *The purchase of this land involves a private/public partnership. The Town and the Chatham Conservation Foundation have historically worked together on open space land purchases. In this instance, with the support of the Land Bank Open Space Committee and the Community Preservation Committee, the Foundation acquired the property with the understanding that the town would participate in the purchase pending Town Meeting approval.*

The approval of this Article will appropriate Land Bank funds in the amount of \$202,119.11 towards the purchase of this land for the purposes of conservation land and open space. The Community Preservation Committee voted to support the purchase with \$400,000 from Community Preservation Act funds towards the purchase. In addition to the Chatham Conservation Foundation facilitating the purchase, the Foundation's monetary contribution will be in excess of \$200,000.

The property consists of \pm 8.4 acres that includes upland and marsh abutting the Oyster Pond River and the Stage Harbor System. The Town will own the property and the Chatham Conservation Foundation will hold the conservation restriction.

The purchase of this property is consistent with the goals of the Town's Comprehensive Long Range Plan to preserve open space. The Cape Cod Commission identifies the land as a significant natural resource area based on the combination of unfragmented forested habitat, critical upland areas and marsh/wetland. The land is contiguous to land owned by the Conservation Foundation.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 4-1-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 25 - Community Preservation Open Space - Marquit Property

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to acquire by purchase for conservation/open space purposes, parcels of land off Valley Farm Drive in West Chatham, Massachusetts, identified on the plan by Nickerson & Berger, Engineers "Valley Farm Estates Subdivision Plan of Land in West Chatham" approved by the Planning Board on September 28, 1965 as Lots 4, 16 & 17, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18 & 20, further shown on the Chatham Assessors Map 9C as Parcels 4 & 16 and Map 10C as Parcels 08, 017, 018 & 20, formerly owned by the Marquit Family Nominee Trust, now owned by the Chatham Conservation Foundation, consisting of approximately \pm 8.4 acres, more or less, as more fully described in a deed recorded with the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds Book 10525, Page 177 and to authorize the Selectmen to take all necessary measures to acquire said property, including the acceptance of a deed and to further authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to grant a perpetual conservation restriction as authorized under MGL, Chapter 184, Sections 31-33 at the time of closing, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Lynne Pleffner, Community Preservation Committee, Representative of the Planning Board

I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$400,000 to purchase the land described in the Article for the purpose of open space, conservation land, and passive recreation, and to authorize the Selectmen to take all necessary measures to acquire

said property, including the acceptance of a deed, and to further authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to grant a perpetual conservation restriction, and to meet said appropriation, transfer \$323,691 from the Community Preservation Open Space Reserve and transfer \$76,309 from the Community Preservation Fund balance.

Speaker: Lynne Pleffner, Community Preservation Committee, Representative of the Planning Board

Explanation: *The purchase of this land involves a private/public partnership. The Town and the Chatham Conservation Foundation have historically worked together on open space land purchases. In this instance, with the support of the Land Bank Open Space Committee and the Community Preservation Committee, the Foundation acquired the property with the understanding that the town would participate in the purchase pending Town Meeting approval.*

The approval of the previous Article has appropriated Land Bank funds in the amount of \$202,119.11 towards the purchase of this land for the purposes of conservation land and open space. The Community Preservation Committee voted to support the purchase with \$400,000 from Community Preservation Act funds towards the purchase as described in Article 24. In addition to the Chatham Conservation Foundation facilitating the purchase, the Foundation's monetary contribution will be in excess of \$200,000.

The property consists of \pm 8.4 acres that includes upland and marsh abutting the Oyster Pond River and the Stage Harbor System. The Town will own the property and the Chatham Conservation Foundation will hold the conservation restriction.

The purchase of this property is consistent with the goals of the Town's Comprehensive Long Range Plan to preserve open space. The Cape Cod Commission identifies the land as a significant natural resource area based on the combination of unfragmented forested habitat, critical upland areas and marsh/wetland. The land is contiguous to land owned by the Conservation Foundation.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 4-1-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 26 - Taylor Property - Land Bank Purchase

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Land Bank Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account a sum of money to acquire by purchase for conservation/open space purposes as set out in of Section 3 of Chapter 293 of the Acts of 1998, a parcel of land off Cedar Street, Chatham, Massachusetts, identified on the Chatham Assessors Map as 13C-7-15, now or formerly owned by Winthrop E. And Allison Taylor, consisting of 3.2 ± acres, as more fully described in a deed recorded with the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds Book 7216, Page 186, and as shown on a plan entitled “Compiled Plan of Land”, dated 5/9/02, prepared by Eldredge Surveying for Winthrop E. And Allison Taylor, and to authorize the Selectmen to take all necessary measures to acquire said property, including the acceptance of a deed on or before November 15, 2006, and to further authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to grant a perpetual conservation restriction as authorized under MGL, Chapter 184, Sections 31-33 at the time of closing, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

(Land Bank Open Space Committee)

Motion: By Emilie H. Kimball, Land Bank Open Space Committee
I move that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$162,000 from the Land Bank Fund to purchase for conservation/open space purposes and passive recreation, the parcel identified on the Chatham Assessors Map as 13C-7-15 and as described in the Article, to authorize the Selectmen to take all necessary measures to acquire said property, including the acceptance of a deed on or before November 15, 2006, and to further authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to grant a perpetual conservation restriction.

Speaker: Emilie H. Kimball, Land Bank Open Space Committee

Explanation: *This purchase of land involves contributions from four different funding entities including private citizens, the Chatham Conservation Foundation, the Land Bank and the Community Preservation Act. This acquisition, a public-private partnership, would be supported by total Town funding equaling \$312,000 (\$162,000 from the Land Bank and \$150,000 from the Community Preservation Act), subject to approval of Articles 26 and 27 before Town Meeting. The remaining funds would come from private sources with a grant of \$100,000 from the Chatham Conservation Foundation. This requested appropriation is subject to and contingent upon the execution of a Purchase and Sales Agreement by November 15, 2006 that includes financial contributions of other interested parties.*

The purchase of this property is consistent with the goals of the Town's Comprehensive Long Range Plan to preserve open space. The property contains walking trails and provides a wildlife corridor toward the Chatham Conservation Foundation property and the Town-owned Cedar Swamp.

The neighbors are willing to maintain existing pedestrian trails under the direction of the Town and to act as stewards of the land, thereby assisting the Town in land management in accordance with the Land Bank Act. The property will remain open space and the Chatham Conservation Foundation has agreed to be the holder of the conservation restriction. Public access to the property is from Cedar Street.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 4-1-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 7-1-0

Article 27 - Taylor Property - Community Preservation Open Space Purchase

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from available funds a sum of money to acquire by purchase for conservation/open space a parcel of land off Cedar Street, Chatham, Massachusetts, identified on the Chatham Assessors Map as 13C-7-15, now or formerly owned by Winthrop E. And Allison Taylor, consisting of 3.2 ± acres, as more fully described in a deed recorded with the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds Book 7216, Page 186, and as shown on a plan entitled “Compiled Plan of Land”, dated 5/9/02, prepared by Eldredge Surveying for Winthrop E. And Allison Taylor, and to authorize the Selectmen to take all necessary measures to acquire said property, including the acceptance of a deed on or before November 15, 2006, and to further authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to grant a perpetual conservation restriction as authorized under MGL, Chapter 184, Sections 31-33 at the time of closing, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Robert Denn, Community Preservation Committee
I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$150,000 from FY07 Community Preservation Fund revenues to purchase for conservation/open space purposes and passive recreation, the parcel identified on the Chatham Assessors Map as 13C-7-15 and as described in the Article, to authorize the Selectmen to take all necessary measures to acquire said property, including the acceptance of a deed on or before November 15, 2006, and to further authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to grant a perpetual conservation restriction.

Speaker: Robert Denn, Community Preservation Committee

Explanation: *This purchase of land involves contributions from four different funding entities including private citizens, the Chatham Conservation Foundation, the Land Bank and the Community Preservation Act. This acquisition, a public-private partnership, would be supported by total Town funding equaling \$312,000 (\$162,000 from the Land Bank and \$150,000 from the Community Preservation Act), subject to approval of Articles 26 and 27 before Town Meeting. The remaining funds would come from*

private sources with a grant of \$100,000 from the Chatham Conservation Foundation. This requested appropriation is subject to and contingent upon the execution of a Purchase and Sales Agreement by November 15, 2006 that includes financial contributions of other interested parties.

The purchase of this property is consistent with the goals of the Town's Comprehensive Long Range Plan to preserve open space. The property contains walking trails and provides a wildlife corridor toward the Chatham Conservation Foundation property and the Town-owned Cedar Swamp.

The neighbors are willing to maintain existing pedestrian trails under the direction of the Town and act as stewards of the land, thereby assisting the Town in land management in accordance with the Land Bank Act. The property will remain open space and the Chatham Conservation Foundation has agreed to be the holder of the conservation restriction. Public access to the property is from Cedar Street.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 4-1-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 7-1-0

Article 28 - Courtyards - Affordable Housing

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money it determines necessary to fund the rehabilitation of Unit A, 15 Balfour Lane, Chatham, (The Courtyards), in order to create four (4) affordable home ownership condominiums for Chatham residents, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Florence Seldin, Chairman, Community Preservation Committee
I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$151,226 from FY07 Community Preservation Fund revenues in order to fund part of the rehabilitation of Unit A, 15 Balfour Lane, Chatham, (The Courtyards) in order to create four (4) affordable home ownership condominiums for Chatham residents.

Speaker: Florence Seldin, Chairman, Community Preservation Committee

Explanation: *The objective of the project is to provide affordable home ownership opportunities for Chatham residents. The target population will be Chatham residents as defined by the Chatham Housing Authority and the Affordable Housing Committee.*

This project meets the goals of the Comprehensive Long Range Plan. It promotes the redevelopment and reuse of an existing building to create affordable housing. It provides safe and decent affordable housing for Chatham residents. It insures the affordability of these units in perpetuity. It will be developed in an identified mixed use village center, "The Cornfield". The project promotes diversity in housing stock by locating development in a building with existing market rate residential units. It helps move Chatham towards the goal of 10% affordable housing stock as recommended by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The level of affordability provided will make these units accessible to first time home buyers. The units will be made available to qualified households earning up to 80% Area Median Income.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 29 - Conservation Land Management

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money it determines necessary to contract with a consultant in order to develop a management program for Town conservation lands, or take any other action in relations thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Robert Denn, Community Preservation Committee
I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,000 from FY07 Community Preservation Fund revenues in order to contract with a consultant in order to develop a management program for Town conservation lands.

Speaker: Robert Denn, Community Preservation Committee

Explanation: *The Town's Comprehensive Plan has as one goal; the development of a management plan for all the Town's conservation lands. To facilitate that process, a consultant will be employed to evaluate the conditions of all Town owned conservation properties and prioritize among those most appropriate for passive recreational use. The consultant will recommend areas for new or improved trails, identify threats to biological diversity and recommend actions to enhance or restore and protect significant wildlife habitat. The consultant's report will provide the Town and, more specifically, the Conservation Commission with information and insight that will be instrumental in the development of a comprehensive conservation lands management program.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 4-1-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 7-0-1

Article 30 - Open Space Acquisition Strategy

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money it determines necessary to contract with a consultant in order to develop an open space acquisition strategy, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Victor Di Cristina, Community Preservation Committee, Representative of the Land Bank Open Space Committee
I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$40,000 from FY07 Community Preservation fund revenues in order to contract with a consultant to develop an open space acquisition strategy.

Speaker: Victor Di Cristina, Community Preservation Committee, Representative of Land Bank Open Space Committee

Explanation: *This Article would enable the Town to update its Open Space and Recreation Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services requirements. Chatham's last update of its Open Space Plan was approved by the State in 1988. In addition*

to being a prerequisite to several State funding programs, an approved Open Space Plan creates a blueprint on how to balance the pressures of development without losing valued environmental assets while pro-actively planning the Town's "green infrastructure" and other appropriate uses for available and potentially available properties. The development of an Open Space Plan will be a useful tool to establish Chatham's open space goals in an overall "smart growth" context to preserve community character and quality of life.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 3-2-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 31 - First Time Homebuyers Assistance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money it determines necessary to initiate the Chatham First Time Homebuyers Assistance Program, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Joanne Taylor, Chatham Housing Authority
I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$130,000 from FY07 Community Preservation Fund revenues in order to initiate the Chatham First Time Homebuyers Assistance Program.

Speaker: Joanne Taylor, Chatham Housing Authority

Explanation: *This funding would assist a minimum of two households to purchase a home in Chatham. Any applicant must be a first time homebuyer, never having owned real estate anywhere. The target population will be Chatham residents as defined by the Chatham Housing Authority and the Affordable Housing Committee.*

Applicants will locate their own housing units in Chatham. As this program gives the homebuyer discretion to locate a unit based on personal preferences, the program will meet the Long Range Plan's goal of striving toward "scattered site" affordable housing. The properties will be deed restricted and, thus, remain affordable in perpetuity.

The applicants must be income eligible, meet the assets test and must have funds for closing and some down payment. Up to \$60,000 will be available for each affordable house. In addition, \$10,000 would be available to the Chatham Housing Authority for administration of the program.

Similar programs have been funded with Community Preservation revenues in a number of communities in the State. The proposal will create community housing by converting existing market rate units to units that are affordable to households with low/moderate incomes and will not require new construction.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 3-2-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 6-2-0

Article 32 - Veterans Field Playground

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money it determines necessary to demolish, dispose, resurface and install the playground adjacent to Monomoy Community Services and the new Community Center, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Joyce Reynolds, Community Preservation Commission, Representative of the Parks & Recreation Commission

I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$75,000 from FY07 Community Preservation Fund revenues in order to demolish, dispose, resurface and install the playground adjacent to Monomoy Community Services and the new Community Center.

Speaker: Joyce Reynolds, Community Preservation Commission, Representative of the Parks & Recreation Commission

Explanation: *This Article seeks to fund, in partnership with private donors, the replacement of the playground known as the "Play-A-Round" located adjacent to Monomoy Community Services and the new Community Center. This is the Town's highest used public playground. The existing structure has reached its life expectancy and is constructed almost completely out of pressure treated lumber which is no longer used in playground equipment because it may be carcinogenic.*

Community Preservation Act funding will be used for the demolition and disposal of the existing playground, the surrounding sand surface, and the installation of the new equipment and the surfacing of the playground. The purchase of the new equipment will be funded with \$100,00 from private donations.

This is a public/private partnership and it exemplifies one of the goals of the Community Preservation Act.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 7-1-0

Article 33 - Skateboard Ramps

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money it determines necessary to construct new skateboard ramps in the Town's Skateboard Park, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Lynne Pleffner, Community Preservation Committee, Representative of the Planning Board
I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$40,000 from FY07 Community Preservation Fund revenues in order to construct new skateboard ramps in the Town's Skateboard Park.

Speaker: Lynne Pleffner, Community Preservation Committee, Representative of the Planning Board

Explanation: *This Article seeks to fund the purchase and construction of new skateboard ramps in the Town's Skateboard Park located adjacent to the Chatham Airport on George Ryder Road. This preserves an existing recreational facility by providing new ramps and permanent features at the park. This park provides an active outdoor recreation activity to youths and adults, primarily in the 10 to 30 year age range. The park is actively used daily by Chatham residents and is very heavily used by Chatham's seasonal residents and visitors in the summer.*

The funding would enable the Parks & Recreation Department to purchase new ramps from a professional equipment manufacturer and have them installed at the park. The total cost of this project is \$80,000. The Town funded \$40,000 to start the project in the FY06 Capital Budget.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 34 - Golf Course Tee Access

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money it determines necessary to complete a new handicapped accessible access/egress from the 7th and 9th tees at the Chatham Seaside Links Golf Course, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Frank Messina, Community Preservation Committee, Representative of the Historical Commission

I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$30,000 from FY07 Community Preservation Fund revenues in order to complete a new handicapped accessible access/egress from the 7th and 9th tees at the Chatham Seaside Links Golf Course.

Speaker: Frank Messina, Community Preservation Committee, Representative of the Historical Commission

Explanation: *The current access and egress from the 7th and 9th tees is over a very rutted surface that requires constant maintenance and can be unsafe at times due to erosion. In FY06, the sum of \$5,000 was funded to provide the design and permitting required to slightly expand the 7th and 9th tees and to create a more stable and permanent access to the tees for pedestrians, golf carts, and handicapped individuals. This Article will enable the Town to complete the construction of the new tee access in accordance with the design plan.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 35 - Archaeological Survey

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money it determines necessary to contract with a consultant to conduct a Town-wide archaeological survey, serving as a baseline for developing and identifying potential areas of historical sensitivity, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Franklin Pease, Community Preservation Committee

I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000 from FY07 Community Preservation Fund revenues in order to hire a consultant to conduct a Town-wide archaeological survey.

Speaker: Franklin Pease, Community Preservation Committee

Explanation: *This Article will enable the Town to identify and inventory historic resources. This will alert property owners and developers to areas of potential sensitivity and prevent the destruction of known sites. The consultant will be charged with conducting field work, reviewing available data, developing supporting maps and preparing a survey report for the Town's consideration and use. This project will be coordinated with the Historical Commission.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 36 - Habitat for Humanity

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money it determines necessary to supplement funding for construction costs on three Habitat for Humanity homes being built adjacent to the Lake Street Affordable Housing Project, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Robert Denn, Community Preservation Committee
I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$60,000 from FY07 Community Preservation revenues in order to supplement funding for construction costs on three Habitat for Humanity homes being built adjacent to the Lake Street Affordable Housing Project.

Speaker: Robert Denn, Community Preservation Committee

Explanation: *This affordable housing initiative by Habitat for Humanity is for three three bedroom homes to be built on land donated by the Chatham Housing Authority. Due to the nature of the site, extensive grading, retaining walls and drainage work must be done and \$60,000 is requested to complete this on-site work.*

The remaining balance \$416,598 of this project is being funded by private donations. This is one more step towards Chatham's goal of providing 10% affordable housing.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 37 - Administrative Costs

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money it determines necessary for the purpose of funding administrative costs associated with the Community Preservation Act, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Community Preservation Committee)

Motion: By Florence Seldin, Chairman, Community Preservation Committee
I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$13,000 from FY07 Community Preservation Fund revenues in order to fund administration costs associated with the Community Preservation Act.

Speaker: Florence Seldin, Chairman, Community Preservation Committee

Explanation: *The Community Preservation Act allows Town Meeting to appropriate up to 5% of estimated revenues for miscellaneous administrative and operating expenses for the Committee. This year, \$13,000 will be available for administrative support, office expenses, appraisals, and consulting services as the need arises.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 38 - Operation In From The Cold

We wish to petition the Town of Chatham, through the Board of Selectmen, to contribute \$1500.00 to the Housing Assistance Corporation to be used for “operation in from the cold”.

(By Petition)

Motion: By Janice Barton, Town of Barnstable, Town Councilor, Petitioner
I move that the Town of Chatham raise and appropriate the amount of \$1,500.00 to the Housing Assistance Corporation to be used for “operation out of the cold”.

Speaker: Janice Barton, Town of Barnstable, Town Councilor

Explanation: *This program is helping those who would otherwise have no shelter during the cold winter nights. Many who have been helped are now in permanent housing and out of danger. More is needed.*

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Recommendation from Town Meeting floor.

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommendation from Town Meeting floor.

Article 39 - Lower/Outer Cape Community Coalition

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of One Thousand and 00/100 (\$1,000.00) Dollars, or any other sum, to support the Lower/Outer Cape Community Coalition, or take any other action relative thereto.

(By Petition)

Motion: By Winifred Fitzgerald, Petitioner
I move to pass over this Article.

Speaker: Winifred Fitzgerald, Petitioner

Explanation: **Summary**

The Lower/Outer Cape Community Coalition, hereinafter referred to as The Coalition, is a community-wide alliance committed to improving the quality of life for all living in the eight communities of the Lower/Outer Cape and to fostering Cape and Islands initiatives that share the same mission. Because we do not provide direct service to individuals, except in the Dental Care Program, we do not qualify for inclusion under Human Services.

CHATHAM RESIDENTS BENEFITTING FROM the Lower/Outer Cape Community Coalition

CAPE COD DENTISTS CARE

Created in 2003, Cape Cod Dentists Care increases access to dental care for low to moderate income uninsured by allowing participating dentists to provide preventive care, screenings, and treatment at low or no costs.

<i>Chatham residents receiving treatment through CCDC</i>	9
<i>Chatham residents on wait list for CCDC treatment</i>	8
<i>Chatham households with difficulty paying for or getting dental insurance</i>	29%

TOOTH TUTORING

A community-based dental disease prevention program in cooperation with preschools, elementary schools and volunteer dentists.

<i>Chatham School students participating in Tooth Tutoring classes 2004-05</i>	150
<i>Chatham School students receiving free dental screening 2004-05</i>	55

GERIATRIC EDUCATION CENTER

Initiative in collaboration with Rhode Island Geriatric Education Center to bring high quality training to health/care professionals working with older adults

<i>Chatham residents over the age of 65 (2000 US Census)</i>	2273
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PREVIOUS COALITION INITIATIVES AND THEIR CONTINUED SUCCESS

INTERFAITH COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

Chatham residents assisted since 1993 ***1190***

Chatham residents assisted first 6 months of 2005 ***68***

LOWER CAPE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORP.

Renovated Chatham housing since 1994 ***18 units***

Micro loans to Chatham residents since 1997 ***7 for \$92,000***

Short-term loans to Chatham residents ***2 for \$10,000***

ELLEN JONES COMMUNITY DENTAL CENTER

Chatham residents service through 9/2005 ***90***

CAPE COD CHILDREN'S PLACE

Chatham families served in FY05 ***58***

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommendation from Town Meeting Floor.

Article 40 - Land Bank Open Space - McCoy Property

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to acquire by purchase for conservation/open space purposes as set out in Section 3 of Chapter 293 of the Acts of 1998, a portion of land off Old Queen Anne Road in South Chatham, Massachusetts as identified by Assessors Map 4H-21-1 and as shown on a sketch plan prepared by Ryder & Wilcox, Inc, dated May 1988 to be Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11, owned by the Richard H. McCoy Trust and Judith S. McCoy Trust, consisting of approximately 11+ acres, more or less, as more fully described in a deed recorded with the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Land Court Division, as Book 10190, Page 298 and to authorize the Selectmen to take all necessary measures to acquire said property, including the acceptance of a deed, and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to borrow said sum under MGL Chapter 44, Section 7(3) or any other enabling authority, and to further authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to grant a perpetual conservation restriction as authorized under MGL Chapter 184, Sections 31-33 at the time of closing, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

(Land Bank Open Space Committee)

Motion: By Jack Farrell, Land Bank Open Space Committee

I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,575,000 from the Land Bank to purchase the land described in the Article for the purpose of open space, conservation land and passive recreation, and to authorize the Selectmen to take all necessary measures to acquire said property, including the acceptance of a deed, and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen,

be authorized to borrow said sum under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(3) of the Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling authority, and to further authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to grant a perpetual conservation restriction, or take any other action in relation thereto..

Speaker: Jack Farrell, Land Bank Open Space Committee

Explanation: *The purchase of this acreage is to protect open space for conservation land, water recharge and passive recreation. The multi-acre parcel consists of forested upland, an interior freshwater wetland, and frontage along the north shore of Mill Pond in South Chatham. The approximate 11 acres to be purchased is part of a 16.6 acre parcel owned by the McCoy family who has managed the land under a certified ten year Chapter 61 Forest Management Plan. This property is one of the largest undeveloped parcels still in private ownership remaining in Chatham.*

The property's importance is based on the values of wildlife habitat, freshwater wetlands, water quality protection, passive recreation, and linkage to other open space and scenic beauty. The Land Bank Open Space Committee has identified this parcel at the top of its ranking sheet for desirable open space purchases for all of these values. The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts, Inc. ranked the property "High" among all parcels on the Cape in terms of both habitat protection priority and wildlife habitat value. Based on the diversity of habitat types that include upland forest and freshwater wetlands together with the historic land use and the minimal impact of human disturbance on the parcel, there is significant potential for rare species on the site.

The land is within the Town's Water Resource Protection District and within wellhead protection areas for both Chatham and Harwich. Public drinking water will be protected by maintaining this property as open space.

The parcel is hydrologically connected with Pleasant Bay and is within the Pleasant Bay marine water recharge area of the Pleasant Bay Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The protection of this land will preclude the development of as many as eight single family residences which will eliminate the potential of increasing the nutrient load to the already impacted Mill Pond and Pleasant Bay.

The parcel provides linkage to other Town-owned properties that front on Mill Pond and that are in close proximity, specifically the 18-acre Town forest parcel across the pond to the south.

There is an existing trail system that leads through the property and that would provide water access to Mill Pond for kayaking or canoeing. Mill Pond is a Great Pond under State law by virtue of its 23.5 acre size. Future improvements to provide parking will be necessary.

The Town identifies the portion of Old Queen Anne Road from the Harwich Town line to the east of the property as a scenic road. The purchase of the property will maintain the scenic character of the well-traveled roadway along approximately 750 feet of frontage. Access to the property is off Old Queen Anne Road.

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Approve 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve 8-0-0

Article 41 - Withdraw From Cape Cod Commission

Since the Town of Chatham has a Planning Board, a Zoning Board of Appeals, a Conservation Commission, an Historic Business District and Historical Commission, this Article is to authorize and request that the Selectmen act to withdraw from the Cape Cod Commission and take any and all steps thereto including, if necessary, petitioning the General Courts.

(By Petition)

Motion: I move to authorize and request that the Selectmen act to withdraw from the Cape Cod Commission and take any and all steps thereto, including, if necessary, petitioning the General Courts.

Speaker: David Rauscher, Petitioner

Board of Selectmen Recommendation: Recommendation from Town Meeting Floor.
Finance Committee Recommendation: Recommendation from Town Meeting Floor.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.

David R. Whitcomb, Chairman

Deborah Connors, Vice-Chairman

Sean Summmers, Clerk

Ronald J. Bergstrom

Douglas Ann Bohman

A True Copy, Attest

Julie Smith, Town Clerk

Barnstable, ss.

Pursuant to the written WARRANT, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Chatham by posting attested copies of the same in each of the Post Offices of said Town at least fourteen days before May 8, 2006 on _____2006.

Constable

Date

